

“Letter From M.O.M.”

The **Monthly** newsletter of Moving On Ministry

WWW.MovingOnMinistry.com

www.PrisonMinistry.net/MovingOn

Volume 52 – December 2009

“I Can Only Imagine”

As you receive this volume of **Letter From M.O.M.**, we have many new writers of articles, we are putting some more of the testimonies of “How God Changes Lives” as well as some of our own written articles. We can truly say that the “high” that many of our inmates have been trying to get through the wrong methods, is being surpassed by those putting God in ownership of their lives.

Watch our website

www.MovingOnMinistry.com

We are affiliated with International Prison Fellowship

<http://PrisonMinistry.net/movingon>

and Good News Jail & Prison Ministry Volunteer

www.GoodNewsJail.com



Intentions & Wishes

The intentions of this newsletter are to allow an understanding of jail & prison ministries. It is our intentions to get input from those incarcerated as well as those “free” to visit. Life experiences of the faith and fellowship from those locked up in the facilities are always desired to let others know of the value of “visitation”. I am certain that each of us have many stories of the miracles God has done in our lives.

Our wishes are that we would have a list of supportive churches that individuals might look forward to attending once released.

A list of services, such as housing, employment, and counseling services, as well as some individuals available for friendly fellowship are also much needed items.

God’s Word says if a man stumbles, how can he continue lest there be another to help him up. **Ecc. 4:10** “For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him [that is] alone when he falleth; for [he hath] not another to help him up.” **Proverbs 24:17** “Rejoice not when thy enemy falleth, and let not thy heart be glad when he stumbleth.” **John 11:10** “But if a man walketh in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.”

Please help us with input for this newsletter as we strive to serve God. We appreciate any articles or input.

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For 2009, Bob is doing Bible study at BWDF on Mondays.

The Sunday after the 2nd Saturday of each month is Moving On Ministry's assigned day for 3 to 4 chapel Services at Corcoran State Prison ("Old" Corcoran).

Bob was rechecking for CMC clearance & Bob is doing Wasco 1 or 2 Saturdays a month

We have stopped doing the Miramonte Conservation Camp #5 chapel services every other Friday, due to lack of attendance.

Bob and Linda have also applied to do services at SATF Corcoran prison.

We are now a part of "Awaken Church" with the prison/jail ministry.

M.O.M. Needs

- Pen-pals to write inmates
- Finances
- Testimonies
- Possible sale of Squaw Valley Property (Camp Clarius)
- Development of Nevada property
- Development of Arizona property
- Graphics artist for books
- Drawings to publish and share

Thoughts from Bob;

As we have just come out of the day we celebrate as "Thanksgiving," we now approach "Christmas." We

now approach "Christmas." Many celebrated Thanksgiving, but did they do it to God or do it to man? We see those that celebrate, and yet continue in sexual sin, drug addiction, materialism, and putting other things as gods before the God. We see people professing to give thanks without enabling the respect and relationship with God. I often look at these relationships as the bride that might profess with her mouth of her love for her husband, yet tries to live her secret (and now days even openly) life of disrespect to the husband. How often are we guilty of doing the same as the 'Bride of Christ'?

As we go into the Christmas season, do we recognize why Christ was born, and came to die for our sins, that we might have life more abundantly? Or do we continue in sin, and deny Christ? I believe that God must be respected all times as with Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving

**Ask for a copy of our complete
"Resource Supplemental Letter"**

What is "Jail Ministry?"

- (1) It is "**out-reach** that goes beyond **in-come**"
- (2) It is God making **House-calls** to inmates
- (3) It is **Dedication** and not just **Convenience**
- (4) It is saying "**yes**" to something, you previously told God "**no**"
- (5) It is **gleaning** from fields already **picked**.
- (6) Realizing that but for the **Love of God**, there am I
- (7) Providing God's **Grace** and **Mercy** when needed (always)
- (8) Putting God as a **priority**, instead of a **choice**.
- (9) Treating inmates with the same **dignity** and **priority** we would treat **family**.
- (10) **Taking** God to those that feel they are not **worthy** to come to **Him**
- (11) Knowing our God is able to **deliver** us from harm, but if He chooses not to, we still **choose** to go.
- (12) **Showing up** to where God has chosen you **to do His work**
- (13) Being part of a **'team'**
- (14) Being a **light shining** in the **darkness**
- (15) Just being there for **'whatever'**
- (16) Being a Fortress of **Truth**, in a World of **Lies**
- (17) **Reading** an individual's mail to him, who can just barely read or write
- (18) **Going** in to share God's Word, when it is not normally **convenient** for you.
- (19) Often just **pointing the way**, without saying anything
- (20) It is realizing that **God** does just as we do, keeps His **valuables** behind lock and key with armed guards.
- (21) Realizing God does not have **vacations** or **Holidays**, and keeping the **coverage**.
- (22) **Displaying** a life that is **desirous**.
- (23) **Realizing** it is more of **Him**, and **less of me**
- (24) Not taking credit for **God's Ministry**

Send us some ideas of what you see as Jail and Prison Ministry and perhaps some examples of how these things have been displayed. We have individuals that do not volunteer because they do not really understand what the ministry is.

Letters that Express it All

We like to post real life situations, because God works in real lives and He is the one that gives "Eternal Life." Every week we get many letters that state "I love hearing the testimonies." There are so many, we cannot publish them all, and the sad part is – people not involved in jail / prison ministry do not get to read the many letters we receive daily (average 2 to 11 each day) and try to keep up with and answer.

Chaplain Bob,

Good day sir. First and foremost I hope all is well with you, your family, and the church through our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Well I read the monthly "Moving On Ministry" and I just want to let you know we appreciate the things you put together. We, meaning the Brothers in Christ on this yard 3C. We also want to thank you for putting together that little concert (Heather Layne). It was truly a blessing from God. After the service, the Brothers went out and told all the other Brothers how they missed out. It was a surprise, last minute, unexpected service. The Brothers who missed, wanted to know if that musician lady can maybe come back and perform again, if it is possible. But, it be announced next time if possible. Also, Chaplain Bob, I wanted to let you know how blessed it was to see you. I met you at Bob Wiley Detention Facility (BWDF) in unit 42, then unit 22, and now here at Corcoran. I'm Matthew, that youngster that talked to you before the service. I look forward to your next appearance. Well, Chaplain Bob, I just wanted to share with you these thoughts.

May God bless you and your loved ones. You are appreciated chaplain.

Matthew R.

NOTE: Heather will be doing more concerts;

CCWF Chowchilla – Dec. 19, 2009

Corcoran State - - - - Apr 11, 2010

VCPW Chowchilla - Oct. 9, 2010

Dear Bob & Linda, things are going well. Yes, I did get a job with Bekins Moving Co. I've been working for 2 weeks.

My license has been released & I took the test today and passed. Now I have a license too. The feeling is so good & strong, I almost can't contain it! I just want to yell so loud! I just get the jitters!!

I want to thank you for your support and prayers. I know it was God working in my life. I thank Him every moment. Oh, thank you for the letters that come from other people & their testimonies. Well that's all for now. Thank you & God bless you both.

Joaquin S.

Bringing Life to Death Row

Chaplain Bob & Linda,

Thank you for this newsletter this month. It's nice to receive the Word of God through the mail, when your having a tuff day in a grumpy mood. At the end of the day (like today), it changes everything. Thank you guys for caring.

I'm enclosing a poem (When I say I'm a Christian . . . published in this issue) a friend sent to me. I hope you guys find people to share it with. Here on the 'Row' we had a copy hanging up.

Cathy S.

The Day of Rebirth

Today is a new day. Praise the Lord, Jesus Christ, for on more day of life on Earth. In a supernatural way, I received a message from the Lord to share with all the people on death row. I'm completely positive that the Lord has a purpose for everyone who reads this message. I know it will be a great blessing in your life. I understand that many inmates have been abandoned by their family. Today, I would like you to meet someone who will never abandon you. He is the Lord, Jesus Christ. The Lord's word confirms this in Psalm 27:10, "My father and mother may abandon me, but the Lord will take care of me. Amen!" This promise is for all the people that believe in Jesus Christ. Don't worry because if you follow the Lord wherever you go, He will never abandon you. No matter what situation you are going through at this time. The Lord, Jesus Christ, is waiting for you to let him into your life. Your past is not a problem for the Lord, because He has the power to cleanse you from all sin. If you repent today, you will reach mercy. In Psalms 102:19-20, the Lord says, "Tell them the Lord looked down from his heavenly sanctuary. He looked down to earth from heaven to hear the groans of the prisoners, to release those condemned to die." Today is a special day for you. Jesus Christ loves you so much that by his grace, you were able to receive this message. The Lord wants you to make a decision that will change your life. Today is your rebirth.

I would like to take you to a scripture that is full of blessings. Luke 23:39-43 says, "One of the criminals hanging there hurled insults at him, 'Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' The other one, however, rebuked him saying, 'Don't you fear God? You received the same sentence he did. Ours, however, is only right, because we are getting what we deserve for what we did, but he has done no wrong.' And he said to Jesus, 'Remember me, Jesus, when you come as king!' Jesus said to him, 'I promise you that today you will be in Paradise with me.'" Amen!

The love of Jesus Christ is huge for all sinners that believe in Jesus Christ and repent with all their heart. Now, let's take a moment to think and choose which of these two criminals sentenced to death do we want to follow. We only have two options. One option is the criminal that blasphemed on the side of Jesus. His future is the depth of hell for all eternity. In the other hand, you can believe in Jesus Christ and repent like the other criminal in this scripture. This step of faith will give you eternal life in union with Jesus Christ in Paradise. Personally, I choose to repent and from that day on, my life has changed. Now I'm free spiritually with my life full of blessings. I'm in prison, but the Lord set me free from the chains the devil had over me. Jesus Christ can also do the same with you. All you need to do is let him be a part of your life. You too can share the joy that I have. In 2Corinthians, the Lord says, "Now the 'Lord' in this passage is the spirit; and where the spirit of the Lord is present, there is freedom. Amen.

Today is the day of your new birth. You can receive Jesus Christ wherever you choose. I can assure you, He is listening to your prayer. My brothers by faith, I invite you to quit all your suffering. Like in John 10:10, "The thief's (the devil) purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life." Stop letting the devil manipulate you. Today is the day you can be set free. Jesus Christ is the only one who can set you free if you decide to receive Him. Remember the Lord's promise for his children. 1Corinthians 10:13, "Every test that you have experienced is the kind that normally comes to people. But God keeps his promise, and he will not

allow you to be tested beyond your power to remain firm; at the time you are put to the test, He will give you the strength to endure it, and so provide you with a way out.” Amen! God is good to his children! You can receive that great blessing. The Lord can be with you through all your trials in life.

Here is the prayer of faith that will change your life for the better: “O Lord, Jesus Christ, save me by your power. I believe that Jesus Christ died for me and that his precious blood will cleanse me from all sin. I give my life and soul to you in order for you to change me into some one pleasant in your eyes. I recognize that I am a sinner and repent. I ask you to cleanse me of all my sins. I place myself in your hands, Lord. So you can use your Holy Spirit to guide me in order to do your will. Lord, Jesus Christ, I ask you to place my name in your book of life and please save all my family. With all my heart, I give you this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ.” Amen!

Congratulations to all the brave people who received Jesus Christ today. In this moment there is joy in Heaven, because of your decision. I would like to share the scripture that confirms your decision. Romans 10:9, “If you confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe that God raised him from death, you will be saved.” Amen! I ask you to keep reading the Holy Bible. It will be of blessing in your walk with Christ. Take advantage of all the blessings in the Lord’s word. With the love Jesus Christ has given me, I send his blessings to you, my brothers in Christ.

Your brothers from the prison in Corcoran. The grace of the Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen!

EL DIA DE RENACER

Hoy es un Nuevo día, gracias a él Señor, Jesucristo, estamos vivos aquí en la tierra. De una manera sobrenatural, Dios me guió para compartir este mensaje con todos los presos que están sentenciados a muerte. Yo sé que Dios tiene un propósito para todos los que reciban este mensaje. Y sé que va a ser de gran bendición. También comprendo que hay muchos presos que han sido abandonados por sus familias. Este día, les presento alguien que nunca los abandona. Es mi Señor, Jesucristo. La palabra de Dios tiene promesas para todos los que creen en Él. En el Salmo 27:10, nos habla Dios, "Aunque mi padre y mi madre me dejarán con todo, El Señor me recogerá." Amen! Así que no se preocupen porque Él Señor, Jesucristo, se hace cargo de los abandonados. No importa lo que pase, Dios esta esperando entrar a tu vida. Tu pasado no importa, porque él que se arrepiente de todo corazón alcanza misericordia. Hoy es un día muy especial para tí. En el Salmo 102:19-20 dice, "El Señor miro la tierra desde el cielo, desde su santa altura, para atender los lamentos de los prisioneros y condenados a muerte." Dios te ama tanto que Él te dió el privilegio de leer este mensaje. Hoy es el día de renacer, y de darle tu corazón a Jesús.

Los quiero llevar a unas escrituras llenas de bendición. Se encuentran en Lucas 23:39-43, "Uno de los criminales que estaban colgados, lo insultaban, -Si tú eres el Mesías, sálvate a tí mismo y sálvamos también a nosotros!- Pero el otro reprendió a su compañero diciendole -¿no tienes temor de Dios, tú que estás bajo el mismo castigo? Nosotros estamos sufriendo con toda razón, porque estamos pagando el justo castigo de lo que hemos hecho; pero este hombre no hizo nada malo. - Luego añadió -Jesús, acuérdate de mí cuando comiences a reinar.- Jesús le contestó -Te aseguro que hoy estarás conmigo en el paraíso.- ¡Amen!

Que grande es el amor de Jesucristo para todos los que creen en Él y se arrepienten. Ahora piensen un poco y elijan. ¿Cuál criminal condenado a muerte quieren ser? Tienen solamente dos opciones. El criminal que blasfemó a un lado de Jesucristo, que terminará en el infierno por la eternidad. La otra opción es arrepentirse como el otro criminal. Esta persona estará en el reino de Dios por la eternidad. Personalmente, yo elegí el arrepentimiento y desde ese día en adelante mi vida cambio. Ahora soy libre espiritualmente con una vida llena de bendiciones. Estoy en prisión, pero Dios me liberó de las cadenas del diablo. Jesucristo te puede liberar a tí también. En 2Corintios 3:17 Dios nos dice, "Porque el Señor es el Espíritu y donde está el Espíritu del Señor, allí hay libertad. ¡Amen! Tú puedes compartir este gozo que siento yo. Todo lo que tienes que hacer es arrepentirte y recibir a Jesucristo, porque hoy es el día de tu salvación. Tú lo puedes hacer en cualquier lugar donde te arrodilles aclamando a Dios. Te está escuchando.

Amado hermano, por fe, te invito a que dejes de sufrir. Deja de ser manipulado por el diablo. Hoy es el día de tu liberación. Jesucristo es el único que puede romper esas cadenas si te decides recibirlo hoy. Recuerda lo que nos promete Dios si estamos con Él. (1 Corintios 10:13) Ustedes no han pasado por ninguna prueba que no sea humanamente soportable. Y pueden ustedes confiar en Dios que no los dejará sufrir pruebas más duras de lo que pueden soportar. Por lo contrario, cuando llegue la prueba, Dios le dará

también la manera de salir de ella, para que puedan soportarla. Amen. ¡Que bueno es Dios con sus hijos! Tú también puedes tener esa gran bendición. Dios te va a ayudar en todas las pruebas que tengas si decides abrir tu corazón y aceptarlo como tu salvador. Juan 10:10, “El ladrón (el diablo) viene solamente a matar, robar, y destruir; yo he venido para que tengan vida y la tengan en abundancia.” ¡Amen!

Esta es la oración que cambiara tu vida si la haces de todo corazón. “Hoy, Señor Jesucristo, entrego mi vida, alma a tí para que me cambies y hagas de mi algo agradable frente a tí. Yo reconozco que soy un pecador y te pido que me limpies de todo pecado. Pongo mi vida en tus manos para que tu Espíritu Santo me guie a hacer el bien. Señor, te pido que pongas mi nombre en tu libro de la vida. Te ruego que salves a toda mi familia. Con todo mi corazón, te aclamo para que esta oración llegue a tí. En el nombre de Jesucristo. Amen.”

Felicito a todos los valientes que se decidieron recibir a Jesucristo. Toda la gloria es para Dios. En este momento hoy, gozo en los cielos por que un arrepentido se entrego a Dios. Les quiero confirmar bíblicamente su bella decisión. En Romanos 10:9, “Si con tu boca reconoces a Jesús como Señor, y con tu corazón crees que Dios lo resucitó, alcanzarás la salvación.” Amen. Les pido que sigan leyendo la palabra de Dios, siempre buscando la dirección de Dios. Aprovechen las bendiciones de Dios en la Santa Biblia alimentense espiritualmente. Con el amor de Jesucristo, les mando saludos y bendiciones. Sus hermanos en Cristo de la prisión de Corcoran. Que el Señor Jesucristo derrame su gracia sobre ustedes. Amen.

The Foundation We Build On; Giving vs. Getting By Chaplain Bob

Does your life description describe “the Savior.” If the description points to something else, you might be serving a different god.

Some Thoughts for Growth

“As you give, so shall you receive.”
Luke 3:38 How often do we hear “*God if you will do this, I will serve you the rest of my life.*” We are changing it to “*as God gives, He will receive.*”

“Where God guides, He provides.”

Prosperity ministries – Take of thy (own) first fruits.

Coming out of the starting blocks vs. finishing the course

How far can I go vs. how close can I stay.

Are we doing more for the Lord than just rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic?

Be in the world, but not of it.

Have no fellowship with . . .

Step away if a professing believer profanes the way of Christ.

Ephesians 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove [them].

The bible said that, they came out from us that it might be made manifest that they were not of us. For had they been of us, no doubt they would have continued with us. [1 John 2:19]

There are three questions/answers that we must clarify.

1. Salvation – How to
2. Assurance - Knowing
3. Eternal security - Keeping

Salvation / Eternal Life

Last newsletter, we mentioned that Eternal life is the gift of God to those who come to Him in **repentance** and **faith**. (Mark 1:15, Acts 11:18, 17:30, 20:21, 26:20 II Timothy 2:25) By **repentance**, we mean acknowledging our guilt before God of breaking His Law and turning from sin to submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. By **faith**, we mean a total reliance on the **finished work** of Jesus Christ on the cross to take away the sins of all those who believe. (John 8:24, Acts 16:31, Romans 1:16, 4:5, II Corinthians 5:21, I John 5:13)

Salvation

Salvation is by grace through faith not of works. (Ephesians 2:8-9) The source is God’s grace and there is always a conversion story.

Repentance – Turning from sin, turning from bad habitual habits.

Faith – Total reliance, believing God and His Word.

Finished work – Being ‘finished,’ leaves no openings for ‘works to get into heaven’ or for ‘purgatory’ to finish what Christ did not fulfill paying for. Christ said “It is finished.”

Are we really saved? We hear individuals say “*I remember feeling the excitement*” or “*I remember praying a prayer.*” I wonder if what they felt was the confirmation that the covenant with Christ was entered. Have they first given their lives TOTALLY to Christ, before they are expecting to receive the gift of salvation? Is there true repentance?

I meet lots of people that say “*I gave my life to God at a very young age, but then backslid later in life.*” Let’s further break down the steps of giving our life.

So, if these types of sins keep people out of Heaven as stated “**shall not inherit the kingdom of God,**” there are now some questions. Did this person backslide? Did this person lose his salvation? Was this person never really saved?

God saves, hears, and restores His own.

1 Thes. 4:1-12

Perhaps we need to go back and fully understand what salvation is.

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

Hebrews 6:2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Hebrews 6:3 And this will we do, if God permit.

Hebrews 6:4 For [it is] impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, **Hebrews 6:5** And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

Hebrews 6:6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put [him] to an open shame.

Hebrews 6:7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:

Hebrews 6:8 But that which beareth thorns and briers [is] rejected, and [is] nigh unto cursing; whose end [is] to be burned.

Hebrews 6:9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.

Hebrews 6:10 For God [is] not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Hebrews 6:11 And we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

Hebrews 6:12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

We will not have the situation of turning away and ‘backsliding’ (a term not found or implied in the Bible) if there is true repentance. Repentance is:

(1) Stop doing what you are doing

- (2) Turn around
- (3) Follow Christ

And if there is true repentance, there will not be the problem of turning away. There can not be just 2 of the parts of repentance, but must be all 3 of them. Let's look at each one and the combinations.

- (1) & (2)

If we stop doing what we were doing and turn around (away from previous activities), but do not follow Christ, we will find new things we should not be doing.

- (2) & (3)

If we do not stop doing the things of sin, and turn around and follow Christ, we are trying to bring the things with us, and there is no repentance. It is much as trying to 'serve two masters.'

- (1) & (3)

If we stop doing the things of sin, and try to follow Christ, without turning away from the sin, and turning to the way of Christ, we are still on the wrong path looking for something that will not be found on that path.

Assurance of Salvation

Assurance of salvation requires 'marks.' Do we bear these marks increasingly. This is being kept by the "power of God" and the source is the "Spirit of God." As we follow Christ, we will often run into confrontation and trials. How we bear these times, shows if we are truly following and bearing the marks. Assurance is not just something that is displayed in times of non-conflict, but rather is more so displayed in times of conflict.

Remember that the whole relationship is built on following thru 'faith.' Works is the outward expression of the inward faith.

James 2:18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

James 2:20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

James 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Eternal Security

Eternal Security's source is the "Power of God."

Do not confuse the answers to the questions. Often an individual will ask "*Am I really saved?*" A church member will give an answer of assurance of "*Of course you are saved, God keeps His own.*" The answer is one of eternal security, but the question was one of salvation. The answer should not relate to "*God keeps his own,*" but should answer "*Are you one of His own?*" The answer should be an answer of "*Do I bear the marks?*"

John 10: gives the difference of the questions. "*My sheep hear my voice and I know them*" shows the salvation doctrine. "*And I give to them eternal life and they will never parish*" is eternal security. In the middle is the often overlooked "*and they follow me,*" and that is the doctrine of assurance.

God hears His children and they hear Him (John 10:3,16,27). John 14:13 "*If you ask anything in my name (according to His will) I will do it.*"

Balance

God was missing for six days. Eventually, Michael, the archangel, found him, resting on the seventh day.

He inquired, "Where have you been?"

God smiled deeply and proudly pointed downwards through the clouds, "Look, Michael.. Look what I've made."

Archangel Michael looked puzzled, and said. "What is it?"

"It's a planet," replied God, "and I've put life on it. I'm going to call it Earth and it's going to be a place to test Balance."

"Balance?" inquired Michael, "I'm still confused."

God explained, pointing to different parts of earth. "For example, Northern Europe will be a place of great opportunity and wealth, while Southern Europe is going to be poor. Over here I've placed a continent of white people, and over there is a continent of black people. Balance in all things."

God continued pointing to different countries. "This one will be extremely hot, while this one will be very cold and covered in ice."

The Archangel, impressed by God's work, then pointed to a land area and said, "What's that one?"

"That's Washington State, the most glorious place on earth. There are beautiful mountains, rivers and streams, lakes, forests, hills, and plains. The people from Washington State are going to be handsome, modest, intelligent, and humorous, and they are going to travel the world. They will be extremely sociable, hardworking, high achieving, carriers of peace, and producers of software."

Michael gasped in wonder and admiration, but then asked, "But what about balance, God? You said there would be balance."

God smiled, "There's another Washington. Wait till you see the idiots I put there."

Lesson in Lying

A minister told his congregation, "*Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17.*"

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "*Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying.*"

Sermon

A pastor, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his message. The man returned just before the conclusion of the service. Afterwards the pastor asked the man where he had gone.

"I went to get a haircut," was the reply.

"But," said the pastor, "why didn't you do that before the service?"

"Because," the gentleman said, "I didn't need one then."

Poetry Section

Heaven

No poverty there,
Riches beyond compare.
No pain or distress,
Only eternal bliss.
No crying there,
God dried up each tear.
No sorrow can be found,
Rejoicing all around.
Thank you Lord for Eternity,
Peace, Joy and serenity.
Faith, hope and Love,
Eternally lived above.
The completed message:
A Heavenly marriage!
---Selah---
To God be the glory!!!

Alex

God My Master

As God is my master,
So Satan is my foe.
Love is the greatest,
Thing we can show

God gave us His Son,
So that we might live.
He gave us the greatest
Gift He could give.

Jesus has the keys,
To hell and death.
He has the keys,
To life in His breath.

He that liveth,
Though he were dead,
Unto us,
He is our bread.

Jeffrey P.

Praying for a Sign

In my prison cell,
I'm praying for a sign.,
Hoping to get into Heaven,
And not be left behind.
I've done a lot of wrong,
That I can't deny.
Other than my sins,
I'm not a bad guy.
I'm praying for a sign.
So I'll know I'm forgiven.
Maybe my sign from God,
Is to go on livin'
I took a lot of chances,
Chances I shouldn't have took.
When I should have been serving God,
I was out there being a crook.
Praying for a sign,
That could only come from God.
Maybe it's the newsletter,
From Sister Linda and Chaplain Bob

Jonathan M.

Sept 1, 2009

Jesus, let me not neglect
Your great salvation,
Fill my heart with pure and
holy conversation.
Lord, live in my heart, walk
by my side,
My communication in
You alone abide.
Help me live my life
for You, no other,
Jesus, my best friend
...my Brother.

Alex

July 31, 2009

Our Path to Heaven

Hell is full of Fire,
God can raise the dead.
The devil is going to retire,
We have eternal life ahead.

Remember that the devil
Has only one big ploy,
To take away from us,
Our one true inner joy

The joy built upon love,
Seasoned with God's grace.
Eternal life through Jesus Christ,
In Heaven our resting place.

Our spirit walking with our Father,
His love making us whole.
God gave us our life,
Jesus can truly save your soul.

I'll follow in Christ Jesus' footsteps
In His example I will abide.
Letting the Lord be my compass,
as I feel His great love inside.

God will protect our soul,
Our future He will defend.
If we will remain faithful,
In Jesus Christ till the end.

What matters most in life,
Are the souls we have won.
And to hear in the end,
our Father say, "Well done !"

**Jeffrey P.
Aug. 6, 2009**

When I say that I'm a Christian

When I say that I'm a Christian
I'm not shouting that I'm saved.
I'm whispering "I was lost,"
That's why I chose this way.

When I say that I'm a Christian,
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble,
And need someone to be my guide.

When I say that I'm a Christian,
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak,
And pray for strength to carry on.

When I say that I'm a Christian,
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting that I've failed,
And cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say that I'm a Christian,
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are too visible,
And God believes I'm worth it.

When I say that I'm a Christian,
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of headaches,
Which is why I speak his name.

When I say that I'm a Christian,
I do not wish to judge.
For I do not have authority,
I'm only here to love.

Received from Cathy S.

Some Days, Lord

Some days Lord, I see for miles
Some days I'm so blind
Some days I can be so cruel
And some days oh, so kind.

Some days Lord are beautiful
Bright sun and deep blue skies
Some days, Lord, the birds don't sing
Some days the magic dies.

Some days, Lord, I know you well
So close, and always there.
Some days, Lord, I'm all alone
And have no love to share.

Some day, Lord, I'll be with you
You've told me, and I believe.
I know you hear me now, dear Lord
Stay with me, never leave.

**David M.
March 2009**

So Far to Go

Help me read the scriptures, Lord
These words I need to know
I'm learning, Lord, to know you
But I've sp far to go.

Often, Lord, I feel you close
So close to me through prayer
So easy, Lord, to reach you
For you are always there.

Comfort me when lonely, Lord
Guide me when I'm blind
The sure, true path to righteousness
Can be so hard to find.

**David M.
March 2009**

Your Love Has Set Me Free

Lord I feel yor presence
And, too, I hear your voice.
Helping me to make my way
And helping with each choice

Lord, I sometimes waver
And, too, I sometimes fail
I sometimes wander far astray
I sometimes lose the trail

Still you're there to guide me
With patience, you are true
Knowing my transgressions, Lord
Won't take me far from you

Lord, you are my sunshine
The blue sky in each day
The beauty that's wuite plain to see
In a very special way

Lord, you are the answer
The warmth I feel inside
I know throughout eternity
You'll be there at my side

Your love, Lord, my true blessing.
Your gift, from you to me.
No earthly chains can hold me, Lord
Your love has set me free.

**David M.
Oct. 2009**

Inmate Art by
Richard Sanchez

God is not unjust to forget your work and
labor of love which you have showed to-
ward His name, in that you have ministered
to the saints.
Hebrews 6:10



Thank you Chaplain Bob